

British Columbia's Decision Support Tool for Hydrologic and Fisheries Applications

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Abstract

The Ministry of Sustainable Resource Management, Province of British Columbia is currently working on producing an intelligent aquatic database called the Corporate Watershed Base, previously known as the TRIM Watershed Atlas (TWA)). The CWB is a collection of hydrographic features stored in an object-relational database derived from the TRIM 1:20 000 data.

The CWB is intended to address fisheries and hydrographic concerns, including support for upstream queries pertaining to both streams and basins. The underlying schema addresses the hierarchical structure of the stream network and is consistent with the emerging Canadian GeoBase inland waters model.

Management of the system will be integrated tightly with that of the TRIM Base Mapping program as well as that of the Digital Road Atlas (DRA). The overall architecture includes the ability to update by both government and non-government personnel. Access and distribution will make use of Open GIS Consortium (OGC) web services, thus enabling interoperability.

The project is approximately 50% complete and considerable effort is being made to finish the provincial hydrographic network, which is the cornerstone to this product. When complete the CWB will provide support to science based decisions by enhancing the ability to link spatial and attribute data about aquatic features and it will also serve as a suitable base for monitoring watershed phenomena.